APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	

12

DATE MAILED: 01/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	**Applicant(s)**
Office Action Summary	09/392,550	CHEONG WAN, ERNEST YIU
	Examiner	**Art Unit**
	Almari Yuan	2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 October 2003.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-51 and 54* is/are pending in the application.

　　4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-51 and 54* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

　　Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

　　Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

　　a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

　　　1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

　　　2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

　　　3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

　　* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

　　a)☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to communications: Amendment filed on 10/23/03.

2.   The objection of claim 54 because of minor informalities has been withdrawn as

necessitated by amendment.

3.   The rejection of claims 1-2, 8-10, 12-13, 17-21, 27-29, 31-32, 36-37, 43-45, 47-48, and

54 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoda has been withdrawn as necessitated

by amendment.

4.   The rejection of claim 54 under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed

to non-statutory subject matter has been withdrawn as necessitated by amendment.

5.   Claims 1-51 and 54 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 17, 18, 19, 20, 36, and 54 are

independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6.   The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making
> and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it
> pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode
> contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

7.   Claims 1-51 and 54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to

comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not

described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains,

or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Regarding independent claims 1, 17, 18, 19, 20, 36, and 54, the amended claimed

feature "traversable physical path" is not enabled in the specification. Applicant is advised

against the addition of new matter.

Regarding dependent claims 1-16, 21-35, and 37-51 are rejected for fully incorporating

the deficiencies of their respective base claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

9.   **Claims 1-51 and 54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over**

Yoda (EP 0775962 A2 – published on 05/1997) in view of Hube (USPN 5,337,161- issued on

08/1994).

Regarding independent claims 1, 20, and 36, Yoda discloses:

A method of creating a document suitable for hard copy reproduction (Yoda on col. 1, lines 1-6:

teaches printing information of a digital document such as a hypermedia document, or the like),

said method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving information from at least one electronic source document, said information

including a plurality of referential links establishing corresponding referential paths between

components of the information (Yoda on col. 5, lines 33-48 and col. 6, lines 24-40: teaches

reception of a first document information; link information extraction unit analyzes first

document information, extracts, as link information, the name of another document information

to which first document information is linked);

(b) defining a physical structure of the document suitable for hard copy reproduction and

sufficient to reproduce the information (Yoda on col. 10, line 32 – col. 11, line 4: teaches

designating a base document information and a series of document information to which the base

document information is linked are printed);

(c) defining a plurality of document links associated with the physical structure and

corresponding to the links (Yoda on col. 5, lines 33-48 and col. 10, line 32 – col. 11, line 4:

teaches a base document and a series of documents that are linked to the based document can be

inserted with pages numbers upon printing);

(d) assigning a user interpretable functional link to each the document link; and (e)

arranging a number of the functional links by assigning plural ones of the document links to at

least an individual one of the functional links (Yoda on col. 5, lines 33-48 and col. 10, line 32 –

col. 11, line 4: teaches link information extracted from the received document as a base

document can determine other documents that is linked to; generating page numbers (user

interpretable functional link) on the base document and on each linked document when printing).

Yoda does disclose "functional links" on col. 5, lines 33-48 and col. 7, lines 23-30:

teaches generating new page number on the basis of the page number of the previously printed

document information upon printing document information, in other words, printing page

numbers for each linked document can determine the sequence of the printed linked documents.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Yoda to provide a way to generate page numbers

incorporated into each printed linked document to indicate the sequence of linked documents in

order to print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily use.

However, Yoda does not explicitly disclose "traversable physical path".

Hube on col. 2, lines 13-27 and see Abstract teaches an electronic reprographic printing

that extracts a tab image from a print job, document or memory for printing on tab stock

(traversable physical path). The tab images are stored sequentially in the system memory and

may be edited as required. The print out of a tab stock is used to help the user navigate through a

sequence of pages of a document.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Hube into Yoda to provide a way print tab stock from an

stored tab image of a document, as taught by Hube, incorporated into the printing environment of

electronic documents, as taught by Yoda, in order to enhance the capability of editing the tab

sequence of an electronic document prior to printing out.

Regarding dependent claims 2, 21, and 37, Yoda discloses:

wherein the physical structure comprises at least one single page and the functional links

comprise at least one indicium printable onto the single page, and step (e) comprises merging

plural ones of the document links to form a single the indicium associated with a component on

the page (Yoda on col. 5, lines 33-48: teaches pages numbers (indicia) printed on each document

(printable page); on col. 10, lines 32-55: teaches table of contents as the base document linked to

other documents).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Yoda to provide a way to generate page numbers

incorporated into each printed linked document to indicate the sequence of linked documents in

order to print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily use.

Regarding dependent claims 3, 22, and 38, Yoda discloses the invention substantially as

claimed as described *supra*. However, Yoda does not explicitly disclose "at least one cut-out tab

formed in at least one of the pages".

Hube on col. 7, lines 5-12 and col. 8, lines 47-55, see figure 17: teaches creating a print

job such as a hard copy document having tab images to be placed on a designated position on the

document for printing.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Hube into Yoda to provide a way to create and print tabs

on a designated position on the printed document incorporated into the printed page numbers on

the printed hypermedia document in order to increase the flexibility and efficiency in making

tabs and wherein the print job can be re-ordered easily.

Regarding dependent claims 4, 23, and 39, Hube discloses:

wherein at least one the cut-out tab is formed as part of a nest of correspondingly located

tabs associated with plural ones of the pages (Hube on col. 2, lines 13-27, col. 7, lines 5-12 and

col. 8, lines 47-55, see figure 17: teaches output position of a tab is determined base on the other

tab images inserted in the other documents to be printed).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Hube into Yoda to provide a way to create and print tabs

on a designated position on the printed document incorporated into the printed page numbers on

the printed hypermedia document in order to increase the flexibility and efficiency in making

tabs and wherein the print job can be re-ordered easily.

Regarding dependent claims 5, 24, and 40, Yoda discloses:

retaining structure definitions of the document in a template for formatting at least one

subsequent document in a corresponding fashion (Yoda on col. 6, lines 24040: teaches the

document is in HTML format and wherein the link information is extracted to identify other

documents).

Regarding dependent claims 6, 25, and 41, Yoda discloses:

defining a presentational style to the document and applying the presentational style to

the functional links to distinguish the functional links from the components (Yoda on col. 10,

line 32- col. 11, line 4: teaches how the plurality of documents are linked together and how will

they be printed; on col. 5, lines 33-48: teaches each linked document will have an inserted page

number (functional links) upon printing).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Yoda to provide a way to generate page numbers

incorporated into each printed linked document to indicate the sequence of linked documents in

order to print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily use.

Regarding dependent claims 7, 26, and 42, Yoda discloses:

retaining the presentational style of the document in a template for formatting at least one

subsequent document with the presentational style (Yoda on col. 10, line 32- col. 11, line 4:

teaches print unit reads out the contents of the information print history and writes the read out

contents in the print buffer as a list for printing).

Regarding dependent claims 8, 27, and 43, Yoda discloses:

defining content specific document links and incorporating corresponding functional

links into the document (Yoda on col. 5, lines 33-48: teaches extracting link information from

received document; inserting page numbers (functional links) upon printing the document and

associated linked documents).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Yoda to provide a way to generate page numbers

incorporated into each printed linked document to indicate the sequence of linked documents in

order to print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily use.

Regarding dependent claims 9, 28, and 44, Yoda discloses:

wherein said content specific document links are user defined (Yoda on col. 10, line 32-

col. 11, line 4: teaches users designate the base document and a series of documents is linked to

the based document for printing).

Regarding dependent claims 10, 29, and 45, Yoda discloses:

associating a predetermined stylistic layout with the arranged functional links so as to

vary a hardcopy reproduction of the document (Yoda on col. 10, line 32- col. 11, line 4, see

figure 8: teaches a layout of how the documents are going to be printed in a sequence pattern).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Yoda to provide a way to generate page numbers

incorporated into each printed linked document to indicate the sequence of linked documents in

order to print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily use.

Regarding dependent claims 11, 30, and 46, Hube discloses:

wherein the predetermined stylistic layout implements the formation of cut-out tabs as at least some of the arranged functional links (Yoda on col. 5, lines 33-48: teaches each linked document will have an inserted page number (functional links) upon printing) and (Hube discloses "cut-out tabs" on col. 7, lines 5-12 and col. 8, lines 47-55, see figure 17: teaches creating a print job such as a hard copy document having tab images to be placed on a designated position on the document for printing).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Hube into Yoda to provide a way to create and print tabs on a designated position on the printed document incorporated into the printed page numbers on the printed hypermedia document in order to increase the flexibility and efficiency in making tabs and wherein the print job can be re-ordered easily.

Regarding dependent claims 12, 31, and 47, Yoda discloses:

wherein step (e) comprises grouping the document links according to predetermined criteria associated with the document links, each the group having associated therewith at least one corresponding arranged functional link (Yoda on col. 10, lines 32-55: teaches the table of contents as the base document contains a plurality of link information that corresponds to other documents; col. 10, line 56- col. 11, line 4: teaches documents linked to the base document are printed; on col. 8, lines 50-58: teaches assigns page numbers to linked documents).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Yoda to provide a way to generate page numbers incorporated into each printed linked document to indicate the sequence of linked documents in order to print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily use.

Regarding dependent claims 13, 32, and 48, Yoda discloses:

importing the information into the structure to form the document; and (eb) applying the

arranged links to the document (Yoda on col. 5, lines 33-48: teaches assigning page numbers

(optimized links) to each printing linked document).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Yoda to provide a way to generate page numbers

incorporated into each printed linked document to indicate the sequence of linked documents in

order to print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily use.

Regarding dependent claims 14, 33, and 49, Hube discloses:

(ec) identifying those of the document links that either (i) start or (ii) end on respective

common pages of the document; (ed) for each the common page, grouping together

corresponding document links identified at step (ec); and (ee) providing a cut-out tab functional

link corresponding to each the group of document links (Yoda on col. 10, line 32 – col. 11, line

4: teaches designating a base document and a series of document to which the base document is

linked to) and (Hube discloses "providing a cut-out tab" on col. 7, lines 5-12 and col. 8, lines

47-55, see figure 17: teaches creating a print job such as a hard copy document having tab

images to be placed on a designated position on the document for printing).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Hube into Yoda to provide a way to create and print tabs

on a designated position on the printed document incorporated into the printed page numbers on

the printed hypermedia document in order to increase the flexibility and efficiency in making

tabs and wherein the print job can be re-ordered easily.

Regarding dependent claims 15, 34, and 50, Hube discloses:

limiting each group of document links to those that either (i) end on different ones of

pages or (ii) start on different ones of the pages, as the case may be, and step (ee) comprises

providing a set of nested cut-out tab functional links, such that each member of the set

corresponds to one the document link of a corresponding group (Yoda on col. 10, line 32 – col.

11, line 4: teaches the user can designate a base document as a start page for printing) and (Hube

discloses "set of nested cut-out tab" on col. 2, lines 13-27, col. 7, lines 5-12 and col. 8, lines 47-

55, see figure 17: teaches output position of a tab is determined base on the other tab images

inserted in the other documents to be printed).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Hube into Yoda to provide a way to create and print tabs

on a designated position on the printed document incorporated into the printed page numbers on

the printed hypermedia document in order to increase the flexibility and efficiency in making

tabs and wherein the print job can be re-ordered easily.

Regarding dependent claims 16, 35, and 51, Yoda discloses:

wherein the groups are formed based upon a determinable relationship between

corresponding the components of the information (Yoda on col. 10, line 32 – col. 11, line 4:

teaches a table of contents (group of link information) can be used to determine its linked

document (relationship to each other by link information).

Regarding independent claim 17, Yoda discloses:

An authoring system for creating of a linear document that includes non-linear referential links (Yoda on col. 1, lines 37-42: teaches printing a hypermedia document is a conversion from non-linear information to linear information), said system including:

means for specifying a linear document structure and the hyperlinks of a hypermedia source document (Yoda on col. 1, lines 37-42 and col. 5, lines 33-48: teaches linear document are managed by a sequence of page numbers; inserting page numbers to a hypermedia document by extracting link information corresponding to other linked documents);

means associating the hyperlinks with physical links able to be formed in pages of the linear document (Yoda on col. 5, lines 33-48 and col. 10, line 32 – col. 11, line 4: teaches a base document and a series of documents (hyperlinked documents) that are linked to the based document can be inserted with pages numbers (physical links) upon printing);

means for modelling each the physical link using a one-dimensional vector; means arranging an assignment of the physical links to one or more of the hyperlinks (Yoda on col. 5, lines 33-48 and col. 10, line 32 – col. 11, line 4: teaches link information (hyperlink) extracted from the received document as a base document can determine other documents that is linked to; generating page numbers (physical link) on the base document and on each linked document when printing).

Yoda does disclose "physical links" on col. 5, lines 33-48 and col. 7, lines 23-30: teaches generating new page number on the basis of the page number of the previously printed document information upon printing document information, in other words, printing page numbers for each linked document can determine the sequence of the printed linked documents.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Yoda to provide a way to generate page numbers

incorporated into each printed linked document to indicate the sequence of linked documents in

order to print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily use.

However, Yoda does not explicitly disclose "traversable physical path".

Hube on col. 2, lines 13-27 and see Abstract teaches an electronic reprographic printing

that extracts a tab image from a print job, document or memory for printing on tab stock

(traversable physical path). The tab images are stored sequentially in the system memory and

may be edited as required. The print out of a tab stock is used to help the user navigate through a

sequence of pages of a document.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Hube into Yoda to provide a way print tab stock from an

stored tab image of a document, as taught by Hube, incorporated into the printing environment of

electronic documents, as taught by Yoda, in order to enhance the capability of editing the tab

sequence of an electronic document prior to printing out.

Regarding independent claim 18, Yoda discloses:

An authoring system for creating a linear document that includes non-linear referential links

(Yoda on col. 1, lines 37-42: teaches printing a hypermedia document is a conversion from non-

linear information to linear information), said system comprising:

means for assessing hyperlinks within a source hypermedia document to which a linear

document structure is to be applied (Yoda on col. 1, lines 37-42 and col. 5, lines 33-48: teaches

analyzing document to extract link information, name of another document that is linked to

(accessing hyperlinks); linear document are managed by a sequence of page numbers; inserting page numbers to a hypermedia document by extracting link information corresponding to other linked documents);

means associating the hyperlinks with physical links able to be formed in pages of the linear document (Yoda on col. 5, lines 33-48 and col. 10, line 32 – col. 11, line 4: teaches a base document and a series of documents (hyperlinked documents) that are linked to the based document can be inserted with pages numbers (physical links) upon printing);

means for modelling each physical link using a one-dimensional vector; means for arranging an assignment of the physical links to one or more of the hyperlinks (Yoda on col. 5, lines 33-48 and col. 10, line 32 – col. 11, line 4: teaches link information (hyperlink) extracted from the received document as a base document can determine other documents that is linked to; generating page numbers (physical link) on the base document and on each linked document when printing).

Yoda does disclose "physical links" on col. 5, lines 33-48 and col. 7, lines 23-30: teaches generating new page number on the basis of the page number of the previously printed document information upon printing document information, in other words, printing page numbers for each linked document can determine the sequence of the printed linked documents.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Yoda to provide a way to generate page numbers incorporated into each printed linked document to indicate the sequence of linked documents in order to print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily use.

However, Yoda does not explicitly disclose "traversable physical path".

Hube on col. 2, lines 13-27 and see Abstract teaches an electronic reprographic printing

that extracts a tab image from a print job, document or memory for printing on tab stock

(traversable physical path). The tab images are stored sequentially in the system memory and

may be edited as required. The print out of a tab stock is used to help the user navigate through a

sequence of pages of a document.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Hube into Yoda to provide a way print tab stock from an

stored tab image of a document, as taught by Hube, incorporated into the printing environment of

electronic documents, as taught by Yoda, in order to enhance the capability of editing the tab

sequence of an electronic document prior to printing out.

Regarding independent claim 19, Yoda discloses:

A system for creating a linear document that includes non-linear referential links (Yoda on col.

1, lines 37-42: teaches printing a hypermedia document is a conversion from non-linear

information to linear information), said system comprising:

means for assessing hyperlinks within a source hypermedia document to which a linear

document structure is to be applied (Yoda on col. 1, lines 37-42 and col. 5, lines 33-48: teaches

analyzing document to extract link information, name of another document that is linked to

(accessing hyperlinks); linear document are managed by a sequence of page numbers; inserting

page numbers to a hypermedia document by extracting link information corresponding to other

linked documents);

means associating the hyperlinks with physical links able to be formed in pages of said

linear document (Yoda on col. 5, lines 33-48 and col. 10, line 32 – col. 11, line 4: teaches a base

document and a series of documents (hyperlinked documents) that are linked to the based

document can be inserted with pages numbers (physical links) upon printing);

means for modelling each physical link using a one-dimensional vector; means for

arranging an assignment of said physical links to one or more of the hyperlinks (Yoda on col. 5,

lines 33-48 and col. 10, line 32 – col. 11, line 4: teaches link information (hyperlink) extracted

from the received document as a base document can determine other documents that is linked to;

generating page numbers (physical link) on the base document and on each linked document

when printing);

means for applying the linear document structure and the arranged physical links to the

hypermedia document to produce the linear document; and means for reproducing the linear

document (Yoda on col.1, lines 37-42: teaches linear document are managed by a sequence of

page numbers (physical links); printing a hypermedia document is a conversion from non-linear

information to linear information).

Yoda does disclose "physical links" on col. 5, lines 33-48 and col. 7, lines 23-30: teaches

generating new page number on the basis of the page number of the previously printed document

information upon printing document information, in other words, printing page numbers for each

linked document can determine the sequence of the printed linked documents.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Yoda to provide a way to generate page numbers

incorporated into each printed linked document to indicate the sequence of linked documents in

order to print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily use.

However, Yoda does not explicitly disclose "traversable physical path".

Hube on col. 2, lines 13-27 and see Abstract teaches an electronic reprographic printing

that extracts a tab image from a print job, document or memory for printing on tab stock

(traversable physical path). The tab images are stored sequentially in the system memory and

may be edited as required. The print out of a tab stock is used to help the user navigate through a

sequence of pages of a document.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Hube into Yoda to provide a way print tab stock from an

stored tab image of a document, as taught by Hube, incorporated into the printing environment of

electronic documents, as taught by Yoda, in order to enhance the capability of editing the tab

sequence of an electronic document prior to printing out.

Regarding independent claim 54, Yoda discloses:

A hard copy document comprising:

information received from at least one electronic source document, the source document

including a plurality of non-linear referential links establishing corresponding referential paths

between components of the information (Yoda on col. 1, lines 37-42, col. 5, lines 33-48 and col.

6, lines 24-40: teaches reception of a first document information; link information extraction unit

analyzes first document information, extracts, as link information, the name of another document

information to which first document information is linked; a hypermedia document containing

links (referential links) can be converted from non-linear information to linear information for

printing); and

a user interpretable functional link with a part thereof corresponding to plural ones of the

non-linear referential links, wherein the user interpretable functional link is part of a plurality of

user interpretable functional links formed in said hard copy document and provides user paths

spanning plural pages of the hard copy document between corresponding components of the

information (Yoda on col. 1, lines 37-42, col. 5, lines 33-48 and col. 10, line 32 – col. 11, line 4:

teaches link information extracted from the received document as a base document can

determine other documents that is linked to (non-linear referential links); generating page

numbers (user interpretable functional link) on the base document and on each linked document

when printing).

Yoda does disclose "functional links" on col. 5, lines 33-48 and col. 7, lines 23-30:

teaches generating new page number on the basis of the page number of the previously printed

document information upon printing document information, in other words, printing page

numbers for each linked document can determine the sequence of the printed linked documents.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Yoda to provide a way to generate page numbers

incorporated into each printed linked document to indicate the sequence of linked documents in

order to print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily use.

However, Yoda does not explicitly disclose "traversable physical path".

Hube on col. 2, lines 13-27 and see Abstract teaches an electronic reprographic printing

that extracts a tab image from a print job, document or memory for printing on tab stock

(traversable physical path). The tab images are stored sequentially in the system memory and

may be edited as required. The print out of a tab stock is used to help the user navigate through a

sequence of pages of a document.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Hube into Yoda to provide a way print tab stock from an

stored tab image of a document, as taught by Hube, incorporated into the printing environment of

electronic documents, as taught by Yoda, in order to enhance the capability of editing the tab

sequence of an electronic document prior to printing out.

Response to Arguments

10.   Regarding Applicant's arguments filed on 10/23/03 are moot in view of the new

ground(s) of rejection.

Regarding Applicant's remarks on pages 21-22 and 25-26:

Hube does teach "traversable physical path" on col. 2, lines 13-27 and see Abstract

teaches an electronic reprographic printing that extracts a tab image from a print job, document

or memory for printing on tab stock (traversable physical path). The tab images are stored

sequentially in the system memory and may be edited as required. The print out of a tab stock is

used to help the user navigate through a sequence of pages of a document.

Conclusion

11.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this

Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Almari Yuan whose telephone number is (703) 305-5945. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays - Fridays (8:30am - 5:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild can be reached on (703) 305-9792. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

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January 9, 2004

SANJIV SHAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER